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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please replace the paragraph at page 4 line 23 through page 5 line 2:**

*B1*  
Referring to FIG. 1, a mechanical pencil has mainly a barrel 10, a lead feeding mechanism 20 (e.g., writing medium feeding mechanism) disposed in the barrel 10 to tighten and feed a lead (e.g., a writing medium), a lead holder 50 (e.g., writing medium holder) disposed on the tip end side of the lead feeding mechanism 20 to hold the lead penetrating therethrough, and an operating part (not shown) for causing the lead feeding mechanism 20 to feed the lead.

**Please replace the paragraph at page 6 line 12 through line 22:**

*B2*  
In the front end part of the body 50b, at least one blade 50e projecting in the inside diameter direction is formed, and also in the rear end part of the body 50b, a rib 50f projecting in the inside diameter direction is formed on the inner peripheral face of the through hole 50a. Also, a slit 50h is formed in a portion in which the rib 50f is absent at the rear end part of the body 50b formed with the rib 50f of the slider 50. Thus, the rib 50f can be displaced elastically in the radial direction. Therefore, the blade 50e and the rib 50f form holding portions at two or more locations along an axial length of the writing medium holder 50.

Similarly, on the outer peripheral face of the outside cylinder 50c, a rib 50g projecting in the outside diameter direction is formed, and a slit 50i is formed in a portion in which the rib 50g of the outside cylinder 50c is absent. Thus, the rib 50g can be displaced elastically *biased in the radial direction into contact with the inner surface of the barrel (tip end member).*

*?*

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Please replace the paragraph at page 6 line 22 through page 7 line 2:

The blade 50e and the rib 50f come into contact with the lead passing through the through hole 50a, and thereby hold the lead with a proper holding force. Also, the rib 50g of the outside cylinder 50c forms a contact portion that comes into contact with the inner peripheral face of the tip end member 14, and thereby maintains the positional relationship with the tip end member 14 with a proper holding force. The blade 50c may be replaced with a rib similar to the rib 50f.

B3